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Nazi Official Appeals Case, Hits Use of Negroes on Jury



JOHN PATLER
... claims persecution

An American Nazi Party official wants to overturn a jury verdict ordering him to pay \$15,000 damages to John Patler, convicted assassin of party chief George Lincoln Rockwell, because among other things, two Negroes served on the jury.

In papers filed in Arlington Circuit Court, Robert A. Lloyd III contends he received an unfair trial before the seven-member jury that decided

Lloyd had "persecuted" Patler —by accusing him of stealing the gun used to shoot Rockwell.

The jury, made up of two Negro women and five white men, returned the verdict in the civil suit tried by Circuit Judge Charles S. Russell on Sept. 11.

Patler alleged in the suit that Lloyd had repeatedly "harassed" him, particularly by obtaining a warrant charg-

ing him with stealing the murder weapon. Lloyd got the warrant last Feb. 8, 1968, the same day Patler was released from jail on \$40,000 bond awaiting a decision on his appeal of the murder conviction pending before the Virginia Supreme Court.

Lloyd, publications chief of what is now known as the National Socialist White People Party, contends that Judge Russell made more than a dozen errors in the trial, including "denying the defendant a trial before a jury of his peers."

Lloyd notes that it is "his contention that the white race is virtually dominant in this country and that the Negro is anthropologically and psychologically inferior." To buttress this argument, he enclosed three booklets on race, including one titled "The Inequality of Human Races."

In addition to insisting that Judge Russell should have stricken the Negro jurors, Lloyd argues that he was unjustly deprived of a lawyer. Lloyd served as his own attorney after John A. Croghan, a lawyer hired a day before the trial opened, withdrew from the case after the judge refused to delay the trial.

Croghan again is acting as Patler's attorney and prepared the papers attacking the jury verdict. Lloyd also contends Judge Russell should have disqualified himself from hearing the civil suit since he presided at the murder trial.

Patler never was tried on the gun charge.